

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

### **Listing Of Claims:**

1. (Currently Amended) An adaptive learning system for presenting an appropriate topic and question to a user, said system comprising:

a processor configured to:

generate and store in a database a set of hierarchical topics having a plurality of questions associated with each one of said topics; each of said plurality of questions within a topic having an assigned difficulty level value;

determine an adjustable state level value for a user based on said user's topic performance consistency; said state level initialized to and having a range of predetermined value;

determine an adjustable water level value for said user based on said user's proficiency in at least a subset of said hierarchical topics; said water level initialized to and having a range of predetermined value;

determine a relevant topic for said user from said set of hierarchical topics by performing the following:

cull said set of hierarchical topics to determine one or more eligible academic topics; and

evaluate for relevance said one or more eligible academic topics using heuristic relevance ranking to determine said relevant academic topic;

determine an appropriate question for said user from said plurality of relevant academic topic questions by performing the following:

determine said user's water level,

search said database for one or more questions within a threshold range  
from said user's water level,

randomly select a relevant question from this one or more questions,

depending on the user's answer to said selected question and on said  
user's current state level, adjust said user's water level according to a  
predetermined adjustment table.

2. (Original) The system as in claim 1 wherein said processor is further configured to evaluate for relevance said one or more eligible academic topics using at least one of a Average Level Relavance heuristic, Eligibility Relevance heuristic, Static Multiplier Relevance heuristic, Contribution Relevance heuristic, Learning Dimension Repetition Relevance heuristic, Failure Relevance heuristic and Re-recommend Failure Relevance heuristic.

3. (Original) The system as in claim 1 wherein said processor further defines a multiplier value  $m$ , said state level value is initialized to 3 and ranging from 1 to 6, said, water level value is initialized to 25 and ranging from 0 to 100 and said predetermined adjustment table comprises:

State Level that said user is currently in:	Adjustment in water level when a question is answered correctly:	Adjustment of water level when a question is answered incorrectly:
1	+0m	-5m
2	+1m	-3m
3	+1m	-2m
4	+2m	-1m
5	+3m	-1m
6	+5m	-0m

$m$  = Multiplier

4. (Currently Amended) The system as in claim 1 wherein said difficulty level value ranges from 1 to 100[[];]].
5. (Original) The system as in claim 1 wherein said threshold range is from  $\pm 0$  to  $\pm 5$ .
6. (Original) The system as in claim 1 wherein said threshold range is greater than  $\pm 5$ .